



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
20301 MAIL SERVICE CENTER • RALEIGH, NC 27699-0301

MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

November 5, 2003

Dear Employer:

As you know, the soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines and coastguardsmen of the North Carolina Army and Air National Guard, Navy Reserve, Army Reserve, Air Force Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve and Coast Guard Reserve ensure the safety and security of our local communities, our state and our nation. In fact, these outstanding men and women, who freely volunteer their time and their talent to these vital missions, make up nearly half of our nation's military forces.

When not in uniform, these people raise families, attend school and go to work. They are our neighbors, our friends and our relatives. They carry on the time-honored tradition of the citizen in uniform.

As an employer of a member of the National Guard or Reserve, the sacrifices you make allow these men and women to serve all of us. When duty calls, employers give our citizens in uniform the time away from work to train and perform for their military duties.

I want to thank you for your dedication and support of these men and women who give so much of themselves so that we may live in a state and a nation blessed with liberty and freedom. Without the sacrifices you make for them and their families, they could not do their vitally important military jobs.

In appreciation for all you do, I have proclaimed the week of November 17, 2003 as Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve in North Carolina. Again, thank you for your commitment to the National Guard and Reserve.

With kindest regards, I remain

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Mike Easley".

Michael F. Easley

